

Remarks

In the Specification

An Abstract, identical to the abstract of the corresponding published application WO 03/093373, is submitted on a separate page.

In the Claims

Claims 1-45 were pending.

Claims 1, 2, 27, 29, 32, 34 and 45 are amended.

Claims 3-12, 14-17, 20, 22, 25, 28, 30, 31 and 37-41 are as previously presented.

Claims 13, 18, 19, 21, 23, 35 and 36 are original.

Claims 24, 26 and 42-44 are cancelled.

Claims 46 and 47 are new.

The application now contains claims 1-23, 25, 27-41 and 45-47.

Claim 1 is amended to include the proviso that the organic pigment (1) is not a perylene.

Claim 2 is amended to delete the term "perylene".

Claim 27 is amended to delete the phrase "which is a liquid composition" and include the phrase "An aqueous preparation or non-aqueous dispersion comprising a". Support is found in paragraph 2 on page 8 and line 15 on page 2 of the specification.

Claims 29 and 34 are amended to delete the phrase "the liquid composition" and include the phrase "an aqueous preparation". Support is found in paragraph 2 on page 8 and amended claim 27.

Claim 32 is amended to replace the phrase "the separately prepared and isolated complex" with the phrase "a separately prepared and isolated complex".

Claim 45 is amended to replace the phrase "the said anionic and cationic coloured compounds and their complexes" with the "separately prepared and isolated complex of anionic and cationic coloured compounds". Support is found in claim 32 upon which claim 45 depends.

New claims 45 and 46 are added to reclaim material deleted upon cancellation of claims 24 and 26.

No new matter is added.

Objections

The specification is objected to for failing to provide antecedent basis for the term "liquid pigment composition" in claims 27, 29 and 34. Applicants have remedied this with the amendments to claims 27, 29 and 34 as detailed above.

The Abstract is objected to for not being provided on a separate sheet of paper. Applicants have herein provided the Abstract on a separate sheet of paper.

Applicants kindly ask that the objections to the specification be withdrawn.

Claims 24 and 26 are objected to for being dependent on claims which appear after them. This is remedied by canceling claims 24 and 26 and reclaiming the deleted subject matter in new claims 46 and 47.

Applicants kindly ask that the objections to the claims be withdrawn.

Rejections

Claims 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph as the phrase “the said anionic and cationic coloured compounds and their complexes” lacks proper antecedent basis.

Claim 44 is cancelled. Claim 45 is amended to replace the objectionable phrase with the phrase “separately prepared and isolated complex of anionic and cationic coloured compounds” which appears in parent Claim 32.

Applicants kindly ask that the rejections under 35 USC 112 second paragraph be withdrawn.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Jap. Pat. Spec. No. 56-00552A which discloses perylene particles coated with a cationic dye and an anionic dye.

Applicants have removed reference to perylenes as a choice for organic pigment (1) and respectfully suggest that no anticipation currently exists. Applicants also suggest that the invention of JP '552 relates solely to the photoconductivity of a photosensitive material which made up of perylene based structures and there is no teaching relating to the subject of the instant invention, improved rheological properties in pigmented systems.

Applicants kindly ask that the rejections under 35 USC 102(b) be withdrawn.

Claims 1-22, 26, 27, 38-40 and 42 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over each of US Pat 6,672,717 and 6,123,758, both patents teaching ink compositions which may contain pigment/dye combinations of various types.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

The Examiner notes that each of these two patents teaches that pigments and dyes can be combined in ink formulations and generically suggests that a combination of dyes, which could include cationic and anionic dyes together, may be employed. The Examiner also notes that there are no examples of the instant invention, i.e., a pigment coated by both an anionic and a cationic dye.

Applicants respectfully aver that in addition to there being no examples of the instant invention, i.e. a pigment composition comprising both an organic pigment at least one anionic and at least one cationic colored compound, there is also no suggestion in either US Pat 6,672,717 or 6,123,758 that such a composition would provide the unexpected improvement in rheology of the instant invention.

Evidence of this unexpected rheology improvement is found the instant specification in Tables 1-4 of the working Examples, pages 14-17. Inks colored by compositions of the instant invention are compared to nearly identical inks, differing only in that the pigments in the nearly identical comparative inks lack one or both of the anionic and cationic colored compound.

When compared at equal color strength, inks containing pigment compositions of the instant invention have significantly higher low shear flow relative to the nearly identical comparative inks.

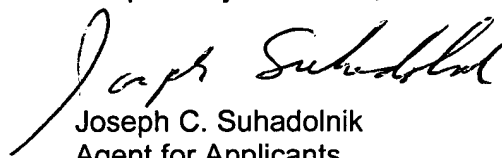
The cited art fails to exemplify or specifically describe the instant invention and is absent of any teaching that would lead one to expect the remarkable rheology improvement demonstrated. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the 35 USC 103(a) rejections.

Applicants respectfully maintain that in light of the amendments and discussions above that all objections and rejections are over come and kindly ask that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and find instant claims 1-23, 25, 27-41 and 45-47 allowable.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

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Respectfully submitted,



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